

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-14 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 NIC-01 /146 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5904

INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6075

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MILI, KS, US

SUBJECT: ROKG PROPOSED CHANGE IN DRAFT SCM COMMUNIQUE

REF: A. SEOUL 5854 B. SEOUL 5918

1. MOFA AMERICAN BUREAU DIRECTOR LEE SAND OCK PASSED
EMBASSY FOLLOWING REVISED PARA 2 OF ROKG PROPOSED DRAFT
COMMUNIQUE CONTAINED REF A.

2. REVISED PARA 2 OF KOREAN TEXT:

QUOTE: MINISTER SUH AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER EXAMINED
THE SITUATION IN THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC REGION IN GENERAL,
AND MATTERS AFFECTING THE SECURITY OF THE TWO COUNTRIES IN
PARTICULAR. THEY JOINTLY ASSESSED AND EVALUATED THE NATURE
AND SCOPE OF THE MILITARY THREAT FACING THE REPUBLIC OF
KOREA AND DISCUSSED IN DETAIL THE CAPABILITIES AND READINESS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES TO DEFEND
AGAINST THAT THREAT.

MINISTER SUH AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER NOTED THAT THE
MILITARY POWER OF NORTH KOREA CONTINUES TO POSE A SERIOUS
THREAT TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. IN THIS CONNECTION, TAKING NOTE
OF THE FACT THAT THE INCREASINGLY OFFENSIVE ORIENTATION OF THE
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NORTH KOREAN MILITARY POSTURE, INCLUDING A CONTINUED

INTRODUCTION OF MORE SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT OF LAND, SEA AND AIR FORCES, CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION OF MILITARY FACILITIES, AND FORWARD POSITIONING OF MORE MEN AND HEAVY MATERIALS ALONG THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE, AND NORTH KOREA'S CONTINUED SCHEMES TO VENTURE INDIRECT AGGRESSION THROUGH A THIRD-COUNTRY AS EVIDENCED BY THE AUG 15 ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT PARK, CLEARLY PROVE THAT NORTH KOREA HAS NOT ABANDONED ITS POLICY TO COMMUNIZE THE WHOLE COUNTRY BY FORCE, BOTH DELEGATES AGREED ON THE NECESSITY OF TAKING APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO MEET SUCH NORTH KOREAN MILITARY BUILDUP AND PROVOCATIONS. UNQUOTE.

3. ACCORDING TO LEE, PARA WAS RE-WRITTEN AT PERSONAL DIRECTION OF MND SUH TO HIGHLIGHT AUGUST 15 ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AND USE OF "THIRD-COUNTRY."

4. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT REVISED PARA POSES SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES FOR US AND IS IN FACT PUBLIC SLAP AT JAPANESE. ALSO AS WRITTEN, PARA ASSOCIATES THE AMERICAN CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE WITH MINISTER SUH'S EXPOSITION.

5. WE CONTINUE TO FAVOR PARA ALONG LINES RECOMMENDED REF B. ERICSON

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